

28 APR 2006



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.  
2033 K STREET N. W.  
SUITE 800  
WASHINGTON DC 20006-1021

In re Application of	:	
HORIUCHI et al.	:	DECISION ON
Application No.: 10/559,669	:	
PCT No.: PCT/JP04/09577	:	PAPERS
Int. Filing Date: 30 June 2004	:	
Priority Date: 04 July 2003	:	UNDER 37 CFR 1.42
Attorney's Docket No.: 2005-1423A	:	
For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING SYSTEM	:	

This is a decision on applicants' submission filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on 06 December 2005, which was accompanied by a declaration of inventors. The indication in this declaration that joint inventor Takao Horiuchi is deceased has been treated as a request for status under 37 CFR 1.42.

**BACKGROUND**

On 30 June 2004, applicants filed international application PCT/JP04/09577, which designated the United States and claimed a priority date of 04 July 2003. A copy of the international application was communicated to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) from the International Bureau on 13 January 2005. The thirty-month period for paying the basic national fee in the United States expired at midnight on 04 January 2006.

On 06 December 2005, applicants filed a transmittal letter for entry into the national stage in the United States accompanied by, *inter alia*, the basic national fee and a declaration of the inventors. The indication in this declaration that inventor Takao Horiuchi is deceased has been treated as a request for status under 37 CFR 1.42.

**DISCUSSION**

The submission filed 06 December 2005 has been reviewed and has been found in compliance with 37 CFR 1.42. The declaration filed 06 December 2005 is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a)-(b).

**CONCLUSION**

For the above reasons, the request for status under 37 CFR 1.42 is **ACCEPTED**.

This application is being forwarded to the National Stage Processing Branch of the Office of PCT Operations to continue national stage processing of the application in accordance with this decision.



Daniel Stemmer

Legal Examiner

PCT Legal Affairs

Office of Patent Cooperation Treaty

Legal Administration

Telephone: (571) 272-3301

Facsimile: (571) 273-0459